



Fish and Wildlife Conservation

How Fish and Wildlife Dollars Are Used in Your Backyard

Manitowoc County



County characteristics

- 589 sq. mi.
- Land: Gently rolling topography of glacial deposits. Over ½ is farmland, 1/3 is woodland, wetland, and grassland; the remainder is developed.
- Water: 35 miles of shoreline on Lake Michigan; 262 miles of streams, and 98 lakes
- Trends: Experiencing residential and rural housing development pressure
- 82,887 residents live in Manitowoc County



State Land Open to Hunting and Fishing

- 9300 acres of state land including wildlife areas and the Point Beach State Forest
- 9000 acres open to hunting

Locate DNR properties at:

http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/facilities/dnr_lands_mapping.html

Fish and Wildlife Staff serving you

- 1 Wildlife Biologist & 1 Technician
- 1 Fisheries Biologist & 1 Technician serving Manitowoc, Door, Kewaunee, and Calumet Counties
- 2 Conservation Wardens and 1 Marine Warden
- **Mishicot office:** 2220 E CTH V, Mishicot, 54228

Activities Funded by Your Hunting and Fishing Dollars

- Establish and maintain grassland & wetland habitat for ducks, pheasants, and other wildlife.
- Manage DNR land by posting public hunting and access sites, maintain buildings & parking areas.
- Control exotic and invasive species like loosetrife, wild parsnip, thistle to assure native habitat.
- Wardens initiated River Watch program and use college student volunteers to monitor rivers and report violations to wardens to reduce poaching of salmon and trout during fish runs.
- Wardens investigate complaints, issue citations & warnings for hunting, fishing, trapping violations
- Wardens use monthly newspaper column to answer common hunting and fishing questions.
- Wardens help Cub Scouts to earn conservation badge by cleaning up litter from Manitowoc River.
- Provide educational programs for schools, conservation organizations and civic groups.
- Monitor wildlife populations of deer, ducks, geese and many more species and monitor fish populations in county lakes and streams. Collins Marsh is #2 banding station in Wisconsin.
- Respond to wildlife damage and nuisance complaints & monitor wildlife diseases like CWD and West Nile Virus.
- Partner with sport club to operate a co-op pond raising fish for Lake Michigan.

HIGHLIGHTED FISH AND GAME CASES BY MANITOWOC COUNTY WARDENS

- Arrested trapper for 9 trapping violations near Menchalville, including illegal traps, untagged traps, not removing animals from traps, and using a firearm while being a felon.
- Arrested three Two Rivers men on eight criminal charges related to hunting deer at night with a light and during the closed season, as well as three counts of buying a license while revoked.
- Arrested a Valders poacher for trapping raccoons after revocation of his licenses. Because he had eight previous convictions for fish and game violations, the judge sentenced him to jail.
- A 2003 investigation brought the conviction of 7 individuals for guiding on Lake Michigan without a license.

Manitowoc County Conservation Snapshots

25 Boat accesses on inland lakes & Lake Michigan

17 License Agents supported

84 Hotline Complaints Received

7 Deer & Turkey Registration Stations

Excellent stream access on Manitowoc & West Twin Rivers



Fish & Wildlife Stocking Summary

- 450,000 trout and salmon are annually stocked into Lake Michigan and tributary streams
- 8 lakes stocked with walleye, northern pike, or rainbow trout, 3 streams stocked with brown trout
- Killsnake Wildlife Area is annually stocked with 700 rooster pheasants

County Success Stories

- Over the last 15 years, well over 1,000 acres of wetland and grassland ecosystem have been developed through joint efforts of the DNR, USFWS, and USDA providing habitat for wildlife and recreational land for the public.
- Collins Zone goose hunters enjoy the highest success rate in Wisconsin.
- Partnership to restore Silver Lake water quality and fishery.
- Initial steps taken to begin restoration of sturgeon in the Manitowoc River.

Statewide Challenges to Maintaining your Hunting and Fishing Opportunities

- Without a fee increase as proposed by Governor Doyle, the Department of Natural Resources will be forced make numerous cuts in:
 - Fish and wildlife stocking programs: Conservation law enforcement; Public hunting acres; Fish and wildlife field biologists and Customer services
- Keeping upland, shoreline and aquatic habitat intact and functional
- Multiple user conflicts - Increasing pressure on public lands
- Rapid growth – urban sprawl
- Nuisance wildlife and invasion by non-native species
- Disease management